

HQT Licensure & Content Knowledge Requirements for Alternative Program Teacher Assignments

Teachers providing K-12 instruction in core academic areas, as defined by the federal No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 (NCLBA), must meet Highly Qualified Teacher (HQT) licensure and content knowledge requirements pertaining to their assignment. NCLBA defines core academic areas as: English language arts (including English as a Second Language), math, science, social studies, reading, foreign languages, art, music, and the generalist endorsement areas of elementary education and early childhood education (grades K-3 only).

An "Alternative Program," as the term is intended here, is one in which students receive all or the majority of their instruction in one or more of the core academic content areas of English language arts, math, science, or social studies in a program that is different from or separate from the regular school program. Pre-Tech Exploratory courses in Career and Technical Centers are considered alternative program courses. Pre-Tech Foundation courses, however, are not considered to be part of an alternative program.

Anyone teaching in a public alternative program in Vermont must maintain a current Vermont educator license. However, Vermont does not have a specific alternative education endorsement. This chart describes the HQT licensure and content knowledge requirements for Alternative Program teachers, including teachers of Pre-Tech Exploratory programs.

Teachers who teach core academic content areas other than English language arts, math, science, and social studies (e.g., art, music, foreign language) in an alternative program should use the *HQT Licensure & Content Knowledge Requirements for Classroom Teacher Assignments* chart. Teachers of special education classes or of alternative programs designed exclusively or primarily for special education students should use the *HQT Licensure & Content Knowledge Requirements for Special Educator Assignments* chart. Teachers providing supplemental reading and/or math services should use the *HQT Licensure & Content Knowledge Requirements for Providers of Supplemental Reading and/or Math Services* chart. These charts are available online at education.vermont.gov under Educator Licensing.

To be HQT for an alternative program assignment, an educator must carry one of the endorsements considered appropriate to the assignment AND must meet the corresponding HQT content knowledge requirements for the subject(s) taught (see the licensure and content knowledge requirements chart below). **The instructional levels of the endorsement used must encompass the grade(s) taught in order to be appropriate for the assignment. In addition, the educator must hold a minimum of a bachelor's degree.**

When counting credits, both college coursework and professional development in the academic content area may be counted toward HQT requirements. For a college course to be counted, the course must be from an accredited college or university and the number of credits and a grade of "C-" or higher must be listed on the grade report or transcript. Quarter credits are converted to semester credits. 15 hours of documented professional development are considered to be the equivalent of one semester credit. For alternative program teacher assignments, up to six credits or equivalent credits of content area pedagogy may be counted toward the HQT credit requirements for each content area. HQT determinations are valid for the life of the endorsement used in the assignment.

More information about HQT and Vermont's Praxis II testing requirements is available online at education.vermont.gov under Educator Licensing. For questions regarding HQT, contact the Office of Professional Standards at (802) 828-1455 or at DOE-HQT@state.vt.us.

HQT LICENSURE & CONTENT KNOWLEDGE REQUIREMENTS FOR ALTERNATIVE PROGRAM TEACHER ASSIGNMENTS		
Highest Grade Level Taught	Appropriate Endorsements ¹	HQT Content Knowledge Requirements for the Core Area Taught ²
K-6	<p>Early Childhood Education (36) <u>grades K-3 only</u>, OR</p> <p>Elementary Education (00), OR</p> <p>Middle Grades English, Math, Science, or Social Studies (19 A, B, C, or D) <u>grades 5-6 only</u>, OR</p> <p>Reading Specialist/Coordinator (76 or 78), OR</p> <p>Special Education (81, 82, 85, 87, 67, 68), OR</p> <p>Art (02), Music (12), Modern and Classical Languages (06), Physical Education (08), Health Education (31), English as a Second Language (40), OR</p> <p>Educational Technology Specialist (42), Theatre Arts (37), Dance (38), Library Media Specialist (61), OR</p> <p>Business Education (03), Design and Technology Education (10), or Family and Consumer Sciences (09) <u>grades 5-6 only</u>, OR</p> <p>Principal (91), Supervisor (75), Director of Special Education (86), or Superintendent (90)</p>	<p>HQT status for a 1-00 Elementary Education or a 0-36 Early Childhood Education endorsement, OR</p> <p>Praxis II Elementary Education exam (test code 0014 or 5014) meets the requirements for all four core academic content areas, OR</p> <p>12 credits in each of the core areas taught, OR</p> <p>Praxis II Middle School or secondary level exams in each of the core content areas taught. Accepted Praxis II exams are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Middle School English (test code 0049) • Middle School Mathematics (test code 0069) • Middle School Science (test code 0439) • Middle School Social Studies (test code 0089) • Secondary English (test code 0041 or 0042) • Secondary Mathematics (test code 0061 or 0063) • Praxis II General Science exam (test code 0435 or 0433) OR one science sub-discipline exam in biology, chemistry, physics, or earth science (test code 0233, 0235, 0242, 0245, 0262, 0265, or 0571),* OR • Secondary Social Studies (test code 0081 or 0083) <p>For a Special Education endorsement <u>only</u>, an educator can also meet the HQT content knowledge requirements by having 6 credits in English language arts/reading AND 6 credits in math</p>

¹ Any endorsement listed is appropriate for all four core academic content areas as long as the instructional level of the endorsement encompasses the instructional level of the grade(s) taught. ² Science credits counted towards HQT requirements must be from among biology, chemistry, physics, earth/ environmental/atmospheric science, and science pedagogy. Social Studies credits counted towards HQT requirements must be from among history, geography, economics, civics/government, and social studies pedagogy. There are no science or social studies distribution requirements for alternative program teachers. ³ The following Praxis II exams are no longer available, but, with a passing score, they will count towards the Praxis II science sub-discipline requirement for HQT purposes: Biology (test code 0231), Chemistry (test code 0241), and Physics (test code 0261).

Highest Grade Level Taught	Appropriate Endorsements ¹	HQT Content Knowledge Requirements for the Core Area Taught ²
7-9	<p>Middle Grades English, Math, Science, or Social Studies (19 A, B, C, or D), OR</p> <p>Secondary English (05), Math (11), Science (13), or Social Studies (15), OR</p> <p>Reading Specialist/Coordinator (76 or 78), OR</p> <p>Special Education (81, 82, 85, 87, 67, 68), OR</p> <p>Art (02), Music (12), Modern and Classical Languages (06), Physical Education (08), Health Education (31), or English as a Second Language (40)</p> <p>Educational Technology Specialist (42), Theatre Arts (37), Dance (38), Library Media Specialist (61), or Computer Science (14), OR</p> <p>Business Education (03), Family and Consumer Sciences (09), or Design and Technology Education (10), OR</p> <p>Career and Technical Education (17) <u>9th grade only – Please note that a minimum of a bachelor's degree is also required.</u> OR</p> <p>Principal (91), Supervisor (75), Director of Special Education (86), Career and Technical Center Director (92), or Superintendent (90)</p>	<p>12 credits in each of the core areas taught, OR</p> <p>Praxis II middle school or secondary level exams in each of the core content areas taught. Accepted Praxis II exams are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Middle School English (test code 0049) • Middle School Mathematics (test code 0069) • Middle School Science (test code 0439) • Middle School Social Studies (test code 0089) • Secondary English (test code 0041 or 0042) • Secondary Mathematics (test code 0061 or 0063) • Praxis II General Science exam (test code 0435 or 0433) OR one science sub-discipline exam in biology, chemistry, physics, or earth science (test code 0233, 0235, 0242, 0245, 0262, 0265, or 0571),* OR • Secondary Social Studies (test code 0081 or 0083)
10-12	<p>Secondary English (05), Math (11), Science (13), or Social Studies (15), OR</p> <p>Reading Specialist/Coordinator (76 or 78), OR</p> <p>Special Education (81, 82, 85, 87, 67, 68), OR</p> <p>Art (02), Music (12), Modern and Classical Languages (06), Physical Education (08), Health Education (31), or English as a Second Language (40), OR</p> <p>Educational Technology Specialist (42), Theatre Arts (37), Dance (38), Library Media Specialist (61), Computer Science (14), or Driver and Traffic Safety Education (30), OR</p> <p>Business Education (03), Design and Technology Education (10), or Family and Consumer Sciences (09), OR</p> <p>Career and Technical Education (17) – <u>Please note that a minimum of a bachelor's degree is also required.</u> OR</p> <p>Principal (91), Supervisor (75), Director of Special Education (86), Career and Technical Center Director (92), or Superintendent (90)</p>	<p>15 credits in each of the core content areas taught, OR</p> <p>Praxis II secondary level exams in each of the core content areas taught. Accepted Praxis II exams are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Secondary English (test code 0041 or 0042) • Secondary Mathematics (test code 0061 or 0063) • Praxis II General Science exam (test code 0435 or 0433) OR one science sub-discipline exam in biology, chemistry, physics, or earth science (test code 0233, 0235, 0242, 0245, 0262, 0265, or 0571),* OR • Secondary Social Studies (test code 0081 or 0083)